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ABSTRACT

Over the 29-year period from 1966 to 1994, the number of faculty strikes recorded by the National Center for the Study of Collective Bargaining in Higher Education and the Professions totaled 163. They transpired in 96 two-year and 67 four-year institutions. The vast majority involved faculty members employed at public sector colleges and universities. The highest number of faculty strikes occurred in the 1970s; for the first 5 years of the 1990s, faculty strike activity has been the lowest recorded. The strikes took place in only 15 states, with Michigan, Illinois, New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey being the top 5 states for faculty work stoppages. Fifteen colleges and universities experienced more than two faculty strikes. Local unions affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers participated in almost one-half of all the strikes, with the American Association of University Professors involved in one-quarter and local unions affiliated with the National Education Association involved in almost 20 percent. A table lists the strikes in chronological order, giving the name of the college or university and its state, the collective bargaining agent involved, status as a two-year or four-year college, and strike duration. (JDD)

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NEWSLETTER
NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE PROFESSIONS

School of Public Affairs
Bernard M. Baruch College • City University of New York • Vol. 22, No. 4 • Nov/Dec 199

FACULTY STRIKES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 1966-1994

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FACULTY STRIKES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 1966-1994

Frank R. Annunziato

The National Center has recorded 163 faculty strikes from 1966-1994, a 29-year span. The National Center first started to monitor faculty strikes in 1973 and has published the following information on strikes every year: the institutions and bargaining agents involved, the location and type of college or university (two or four year), the number of faculty affected, and the duration of the strike.

In the early 1980s, Dr. Joel Douglas, edited two newsletters (Vol. 10, No. 4, October 1982 and Vol. 11, No. 5, December 1983) which analyzed aggregate faculty strike information from 1966. Much of the original research on strike activity was done by Esther Liebert, then Baruch College Director of Personnel and now our Dean of Faculty and Staff Relations. We hope that this newsletter will successfully update the work which Joel and Esther started over a decade ago. Since it is extremely difficulty to follow all the labor-management activities in higher education throughout the country, we may have neglected to record certain strikes, or we may have incorrectly recorded information. We urge our readers to inform us of any errors or omissions. Since the National Center is now the only source in the U. S. for this type of data, it is imperative that we publish the most correct material possible.

TABLE ONE lists all the strikes which the Center has recorded from 1966-1994. These 163 strikes transpired in 96 two-year and 67 four-year institutions. The vast majority of these strikes involved faculty members employed at public sector colleges and universities (125) which makes sense since faculty collective bargaining is overwhelmingly a phenomenon of public sector institutions (see the National Center's publication Directory 1994). We can document only 39 strikes in private colleges and universities over the past 29 years.

The decade of the 1970s witnessed the highest number of faculty strikes (78) and the highest average number of strikes per year (7.8). Strike activity declined considerably during the next two decades. There were 54 strikes during the 1980s, with an average number of strikes per year of 5.4. For the first five years of the 1990s, the Center has recorded the lowest faculty strike activity since we began keeping this information, with only 13 strikes, for an average number of strikes per year of 2.6. In contrast, during the last four years of the 1960s (1966-1969), there were 18 strikes, for an average number of strikes per year of 4.5.

Five of the six years with the highest number of strikes occurred in the 1970s: 1977 (13), 1979 (12), 1978 (12), 1974 (10), and 1975 (12). The remaining year with the highest number of strikes was 1986, with 12 strikes. Three of the five years with the lowest number of strikes occurred during the 1990s: 1992 (0), 1991 (2), and 1993 (2). There were only two strikes in 1970 and 1 strike in 1989.

These 163 strikes took place in only fifteen states, with the states of Michigan (42), Illinois (31), New York (20), Pennsylvania (18), and New Jersey (13) ranking in the top five states for faculty work stoppages. These five states were the home-states for 124 faculty work stoppages, or 76 percent of the total number.

Fifteen colleges and universities experienced more than two faculty strikes. Three institutions, the City Colleges of Chicago (IL), Prairie State College (IL), and Wayne State University (MI) saw faculty members stop work seven times! Four strikes occurred at Henry Ford Community College (MI), Thornton Community College

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TABLE ONE

FACULTY STRIKES IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 1966-1994[1]

Year	Institution	State	Agent[2]	2/4 Year	Duration (Days)[3]
1966.....Four Faculty Strikes					
	Henry Ford Comm. College	MI	AFT	2	4
	Charles Stewart Mott College	MI	NEA	2	2
	*St. John's University[4]	NY	AFT[5]	4	150
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	3
1967.....Six Faculty Strikes					
	Henry Ford Com. College	IL	AFT	2	13
	Macomb County Com. College	MI	IND	2	5
	Lake Michigan Com. College	MI	AFT	2	42
	Highland Park Com. College	MI	AFT	2	18
	*Catholic Univ. of America	DC	AFT	4	5
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	6
1968.....Three Faculty Strikes					
	Northern Illinois Univ.	IL	?[6]	4	14
	Chicago State University	IL	?[6]	4	19
	Lake Michigan Com. College	MI	AFT	2	16[7]
1969.....Five Faculty Strikes					
	San Francisco State College	CA	AFT	4	14
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	2
	San Jose City Coll. District	CA	AFT	2	36
	Charles Stewart Mott College	MI	NEA	2	21
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	2
1970.....Two Faculty Strikes					
	Schoolcraft Com. College	MI	AFT	2	25[8]
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	7
1971.....Four Faculty Strikes					
	Oakland University	MI	NEA	4	16
	Nassau Com. College	NY	AFT	2	14
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	3
	Alpena Com. College	MI	NEA	2	15
1972.....Five Faculty Strikes					
	Com. Coll. of Allegheny City	PA	AFT	2	31
	Com. Coll. of Philadelphia	PA	AFT	2	49
	Macomb County Com. College	MI	IND	2	20
	Middlesex County College	NY	AFT	2	4
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	6

Year	Institution	State	Agent	2/4 Year	Duration (Days)
1973.....Seven Faculty Strikes					
	Lake Michigan College	MI	AFT	2	80
	Tacoma Com. College	WA	AFT	2	12
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	2
	*Antioch University	OH	?[6]	4	42
	Highland Park Com. College	MI	AFT	2	19
	Westmoreland Com. College	MI	AFT	2	14
	Somerset County College	NJ	AFT	2	10
1974.....Nine Faculty Strikes					
	Univ. of Alaska Com. College	AK	AFT	2	18
	*Long Island Univ.-C.W. Post	NY	AFT	4	.5
	Green River Com. College	WA	AFT	2	10
	Lehigh County Com. College	PA	NEA	2	15
	*Lincoln Tech. Institute	PA	IND	2	42
	Moraine Valley Com. College	IL	AFT	2	22
	*Rider College	NJ	AAUP	2	8
	New Jersey State Col. System	NJ	AFT	4	10
	Wayne County Com. College	MI	AFT	2	4
1975.....Nine Faculty Strikes					
	Buck County Com. College	PA	AFT	2	9
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	21
	Rhode Island Jr. College	RI	AFT	2	5
	Thornton Com. College	IL	AFT	2	10
	Univ. of Bridgeport	CT	AAUP	4	3
	College of Marin	CA	?[6]	2	1
	Robert Morris College	PA	AFT	4	7
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	3
	Gloucester County College	NJ	AFT	2	11
1976.....Seven Faculty Strikes					
	Comm. Col. of Philadelphia	PA	AFT	2	32
	*Pepperdine U.-Seaver College	CA	IND	4	1
	Oakland University	MI	AAUP	4	3
	*Adelphi University	NY	AAUP	4	1
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	23
	Community Col. of Beaver County	PA	NEA	2	30
	Seattle Community Colleges	WA	AFT	2	6
1977.....Thirteen Faculty Strikes					
	Western Michigan University	MI	AAUP	4	1
	*Wentworth Institute	MA	AFT	4	18
	Highland Park Com. College	MI	AFT	2	10
	Thornton Com. College	IL	AFT	2	16
	Joliet Jr. College	IL	AFT	2	8
	*Dowling College	NY	AAUP	4	14
	*Wagner College	NY	AAUP	4	21

Year	Institution	State	Agent	2/4 Year	Duration (Days)
1977 (continued)					
	*Long Island Univ.-C.W. Post	NY	AFT	4	20
	U. Alaska Com. Colleges	AK	AFT	2	8
	CT. State Tech. College	CT	AFT	2	4
	Stevens Institute of Tech.	NJ	AAUP	4	18
	Bucks County Com. College	PA	AFT	2	35
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	4	2
1978.....Ten Faculty Strikes					
	City Colleges of Chicago	IL	AFT	2	25
	*Univ. of Bridgeport	CT	AAUP	4	16
	Ferris State College	MI	NEA	4	2
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	2
	Eastern Michigan University	MI	AAUP	4	7
	Kellogg Com. College	MI	NEA	2	3
	Henry Ford Com. College	MI	AFT	2	5
	Lansing Community College	MI	AFT	2	7
	Schoolcraft College	MI	NEA	2	17
	Univ. of D.C.-Van Ness	DC	NEA	4	3
1979.....Twelve Faculty Strikes					
	Delaware County Com. College	PA	NEA	2	21
	*Fairleigh Dickinson Univ.	NJ	AAUP	4	10
	*Hofstra University	NY	AAUP	4	1
	*Long Island Univ.-Brooklyn	NY	AFT	4	24
	*Monmouth College	NY	AAUP	4	13
	Rhode Island Jr. College	RI	NEA	2	9
	*Union College	NJ	AAUP	2	10
	University of Cincinnati	OH	AAUP	4	6
	University of Rhode Island	RI	AAUP	4	14
	Washtenaw Community College	MI	NEA	2	10
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	21
	*Boston University	MA	AAUP	4	7
1980.....Eight Faculty Strikes					
	Bellville Area College	IL	AAUP	2	17
	*U. of Dubuque Theo. Seminary	IA	NEA	4	3
	*Long Island Univ.-Brooklyn	NY	AFT	4	42
	McHenry County College	IL	NEA	2	6
	Nassau Community College	NY	AFT	2	8
	Schoolcraft College	MI	NEA	2	5
	*Union College	NJ	AAUP	2	12
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	23
1981.....Six Faculty Strikes					
	Delaware County Com. College	PA	NEA	2	25
	*Dowling College	NY	AFT	4	14
	Montgomery County Com. Col.	PA	AAUP	2	23

Year	Institution	State	Agent	2/4 Year	Duration (Days)
1981 (continued)					
	*University of Dubuque	IA	NEA	4	11
	*Wagner College	NY	AFT	4	21
	Com. Col. of Philadelphia	PA	AFT	2	4
1982.....Three Faculty Strikes					
	Prairie State College	IL	AFT	2	77
	Highland Park Com. College	MI	AFT	2	2
	Montgomery County Com. Col.	PA	AFT	2	28
1983.....Three Faculty Strikes					
	Compton Community College	CA	AFT	2	21
	St. Clair County Com.College	MI	NEA	2	3
	University of Hawaii	HI	NEA	4	2
1984.....Eight Faculty Strikes					
	Burlington Com.College	NJ	NEA	2	4
	Morton College	IL	AFT	2	
	Kellogg Com.College	MI	NEA	2	2
	Thornton Com.College	IL	AFT	2	3
	West. Michigan U.	MI	AAUP	4	4
	Henry Ford Com. College	MI	AFT	2	3
	Lincoln University	PA	AAUP	4	13
	Taylor Business	NY	AFT	2	27
1985.....Six Faculty Strikes					
	*Hofstra University	NY	AAUP	4	6
	Lakeland Com. College	OH	NEA	2	2
	*Long Island Univ-Brooklyn	NY	AFT	2	4
	*Long Island Univ.-C.W.Post	NY	AFT	4	11
	Oakland University	MI	AAUP	4	3
	Triton College	IL	AFT	2	6
1986.....Twelve Faculty Strikes					
	Bellevue Com.College	WA	NEA	2	7
	*Fairleigh Dickinson	NJ	AAUP	4	7
	Lakeland College	IL	AFT	2	20
	Mercer Com. College	NJ	NEA	2	3
	Mott Com.College	MI	NEA	2	7
	*Roger Williams College	RI	NEA	4	2
	Temple University	PA	AAUP	4	15
	Thornton Com. College	IL	AFT	2	35
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	1
	*Berklee Coll.of Music (f/t)	MA	AFT	4	14
	*Berklee Coll.of Music (p/t)	MA	AFT	4	14
	Jefferson Tech. College	OH	AFT	2	96

Year	Institution	State	Agent	2/4 Year	Duration (Days)
1987.....Three Faculty Strikes					
	Ferris State College	MI	NEA	4	4
	*U. of Bridgeport	CT	AAUP	4	1
	Shawnee St. College	OH	NEA	4	2
1988.....Four Faculty Strikes					
	*Hofstra University	NY	AAUP	4	9
	Lower Columbia College	WA	IND	2	2
	Middlesex County College	NJ	AFT	2	3
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	14
1989.....One Faculty Strike					
	Youngstown State University	OH	NEA	4	1
1990.....Five Faculty Strikes					
	Temple University	PA	AAUP	4	29
	Shawnee State University	OH	NEA	4	14
	Union County College	NJ	AAUP	2	1
	*U. of Bridgeport	CT	AAUP	4	15
	Wayne State University	MI	AAUP	4	3
1991.....Two Faculty Strikes and One Graduate Student Strike					
	*Carl Sandburg College	IL	AFT	2	7
	*U. of Bridgeport	CT	AAUP	4	
	UMass-Amherst (graduate students)	MA	UAW	4	2
1992.....No strikes during 1992					
1993.....Two faculty strikes					
	University of Cincinnati	OH	AAUP	4	5
	Delaware County Com.Col.	PA	NEA	2	6
1994.....Four faculty Strikes					
	Wayne State U.	MI	AAUP	4	3
	Oakland University	MI	AAUP	4	2
	*Long Island Univ.-Brooklyn	NY	AFT	2	6
	*Long Island Univ.-C.W.Post	NY	AFT	4	3

ENDNOTES

1. All strike statistics have been taken from past issues of National Center newsletters and annual directories.
2. By agent, we mean the faculty bargaining representative at the time of the strike.
3. From 1966-1993, the National Center used calendar days to indicate the duration of faculty strikes. From 1984 to present, the Center counts only work days lost in calculating the duration of strikes.
4. The asterisk (*) before the name of a college or university indicates a private sector institution.
5. There was no bargaining agent at the time of the strike. We believe that many of the faculty members were affiliated with the AFT. The current agent is AAUP/Ind.
6. The agent at the time of the strike is unknown.
7. The National Center originally reported the duration of the strike as 15-16 days.
8. The National Center originally reported the duration of the strike as 20-25 days.

(continued from page 1)
(IL), and the private sector University of Bridgeport (CT). Three strikes transpired at Charles Mott College (MI), Schoolcraft College (MI), Community College of Philadelphia (PA), the private sector Brooklyn Center of Long Island University (NY), the private sector C.W. Post Center of Long Island University (NY), Delaware County Community College (PA), and the private sector Hofstra University (NY). These colleges and universities account for 69 strikes, 42 percent of the total.

Local unions affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) participated in almost one-half of all the strikes: 81 strikes, 49.6 percent of all strikes. Local unions affiliated with the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) set up picket lines in 41 strikes, 25 percent of the total number of strikes. Local unions affiliated with the National Education Association (NEA) struck 32 times, 19.6 percent of the total number of strikes. Independent local unions, and unions whose affiliation we cannot account for struck 9 times, or 5.5 percent of the total number of strikes.

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TABLE TWO
STRIKES BY NATIONAL UNIONS, 1966-1994

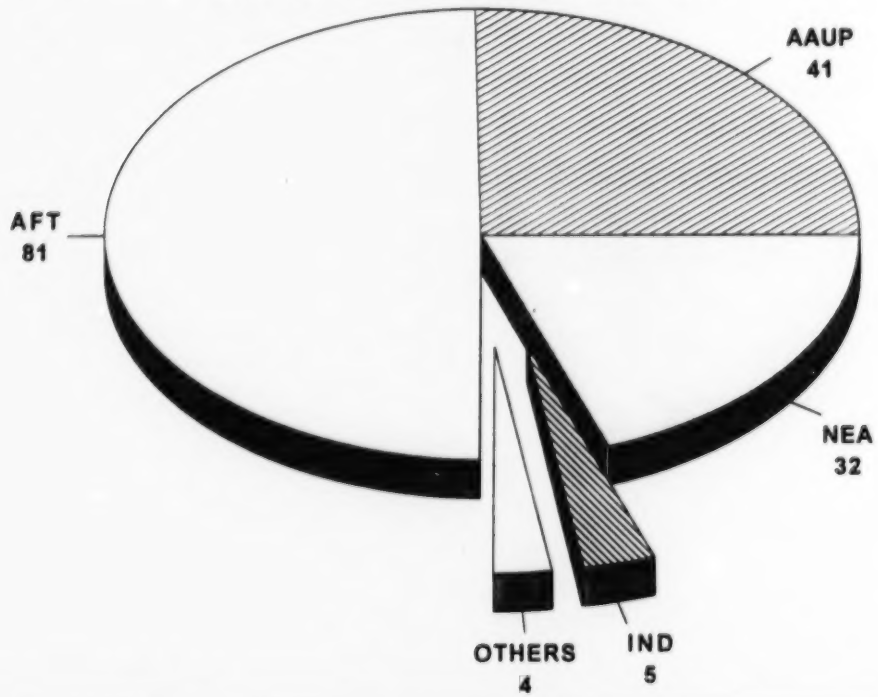

TABLE THREE
STATES WITH THE MOST STRIKES, 1966-1994

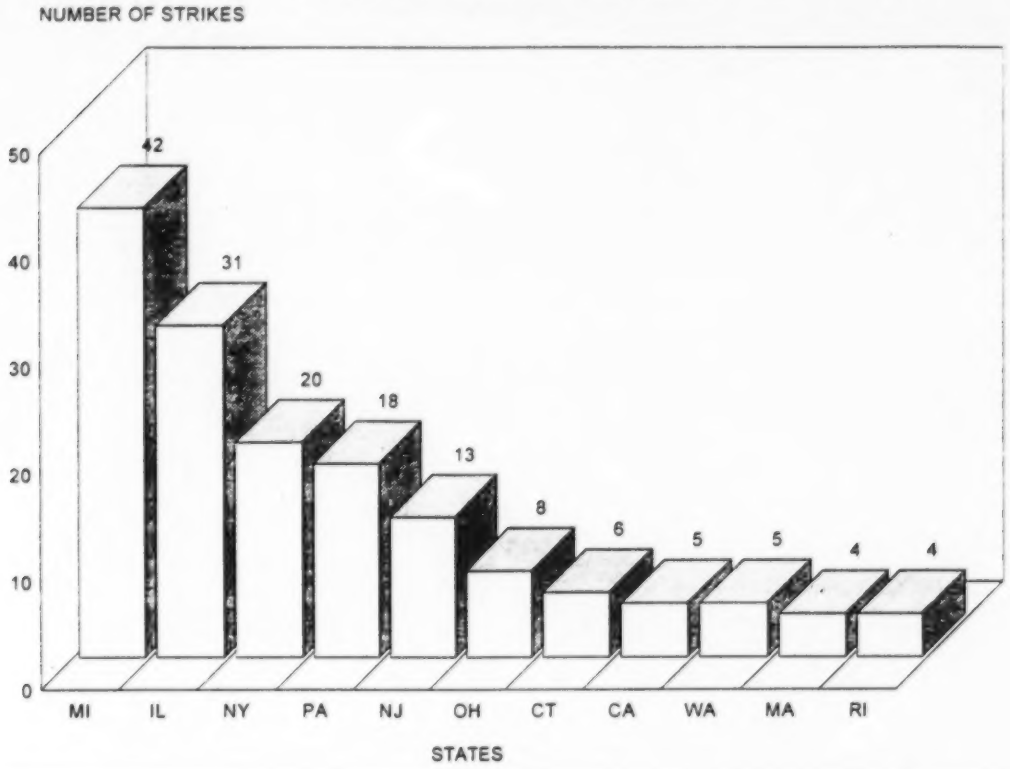

TABLE FOUR
FACULTY STRIKES, YEAR BY YEAR, 1966-1994